

## The Presbyterian of The South

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## Daily Readings from the Bible

### MAY

#### Morning Readings. Evening Readings.

13. John, 12:41-13:20	Isaiah, 15:1-16:14
14. " 13:21-14:17	" 17:1-18:7
15. " 14:18-15:17	" 19:1-25
16. " 15:18-16:24	" 20:1-21:17
17. " 16:25-17:26	" 22:1-25
18. " 18:1-24	" 23:1-24:13
19. " 18:25-19:16	" 24:14-25:12

## Church News

### VIRGINIA.

**Richmond, Second Church:** Both of the services on last Sabbath were of special character. That in the morning was in commemoration of the centennial anniversary of the American Bible Society. Our pastor, Dr. Cecil, is the president of the Virginia Bible Society, which, under the new arrangement, is the Southeastern agency of the American Bible Society, having charge of the distribution of Bibles in the six States of Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. His sermon on this occasion was based upon the text, "But the word of God is not bound" (2 Tim. 2:9). It opened with an interesting sketch of the founding of the society and its subsequent work, to which work the speaker made allusions throughout the sermon. But the principal subject of the discourse was the still more interesting history of the book itself, and the power of God's word among all peoples and nations of all ages—"The same yesterday, today and forever."

At the evening service Dr. Cecil preached the commencement sermon before the Assembly's Training School for Lay Workers, on the subject of "Christian Ambition," from 2 Cor. 5:9, "Wherefore we labor, that whether absent or present, we may be accepted of him."

**Granite:** A commission of East Hanover Presbytery visited this place, which is about a mile and a half from the corporate limits of Richmond, on May the 8th and organized a church. The church consists of nine members received at that time and one other received last Sunday. Six of these came by letter and four on profession of faith. Mr. R. G. Harrison was elected, ordained and installed as an elder. During the past week Rev. H. J. Williams, pastor of the Third church, Richmond, preached for this new congregation each night. His sermons were strong appeals to Christians to live near to God and to sinners to accept the Saviour. There were two professions of faith and others were

deeply impressed. It is expected that there will be several additions to the church in the near future. Rev. William S. Campbell has for some time been in charge of the mission, out of which this church has grown. It was started by the late Dr. J. K. Hazen.

**Lexington Presbytery** will hold a special meeting at Lexington, Va., May 23, 1916, at 10 A. M. to receive and arrange for the installation of Rev. M. R. Turnbull as pastor of Mossy Creek church.

Wm. C. White, S. C.

**Roanoke Presbytery:** An adjourned meeting of Roanoke Presbytery was held at Drake's Branch May 9, 1916. Rev. W. C. Young acted as moderator, and Rev. J. A. Armstrong as temporary clerk. The following business was transacted: Rev. A. E. Grover was received from Fayetteville Presbytery, North Carolina. Calls for the pastoral services of Mr. Grover were received from Hermon, Wylliesburg and Providence churches. These calls were docketed till the fall meeting of Presbytery.

Dr. John A. Scott, who has been called to the pastorate of Hat Creek and Rustburg churches, appeared before Presbytery, and asked that a commission be sent to Hat Creek church on the third Sunday in June to examine him, as his dismissal from his home Presbytery has not yet been received.

**Scottsville:** The Rev. James E. Cook, pastor of the Keswick group of churches in Albemarle County, Virginia, ably assisted the pastor at this church in evangelistic services, beginning the fifth Sunday of April and extending through the following Friday evening. Mr. Cook gave us twelve strong, earnest, helpful sermons. In the afternoon he preached a series of five stirring sermons on "Passion For Souls." The attendance was increasingly good, and the interest grew, and approached its climax on Friday night, when we were reluctantly compelled to close the meeting. Seven persons responded to the invitation of the gospel, and we hope and believe that we shall have some additions to the church. Brother Cook has unusually fine evangelistic gifts: his preaching is scriptural, forceful and prophetic. He also helps the singing with his strong, rich voice. He had held a meeting in this church less than two years ago, and on this visit endeared himself afresh to all the people of Scottsville. The church at Arvon looks forward with much interest to his holding a meeting with it the latter part of next October.

**Arvon church** made this year to Presbytery the best report perhaps in its history. A congregational meeting has been called for the third Sunday of May to elect additional deacons.

**Howardsville:** The little sister of the group, with only nine members, made the splendid showing of an aggregate contribution of \$275, one-half of which went for the church benevolences.

W. McC. M.

**Newport News, First Church:** The annual congregational meeting was held Wednesday night, May 3rd. The reports from the various societies and organizations were most encouraging, being an increase over last year. The new pipe organ has been installed, last Sunday being the first time it was used. Special music was arranged for both morning and evening services.

On Monday night there was a Union Young People's Mass Meeting. An organ recital was given by the organist, Miss Ella Davis, after which short addresses of welcome were given by Mr. Richard Broad, vice-president of Hampton Roads Epworth League Union; Mr. J. H. Berry, for the Baptist Young People's Union; Rev. J. de Gafferly, president Ministerial Association; Mr. Chester Ashby, president

Sunday-school Association, and Rev. J. V. Knight, president Peninsula Christian Endeavor Union. Mr. Karl Lehmann, field secretary of the All-South Christian Endeavor Committee, gave a most splendid and inspiring address on the history, wonderful progress and importance of the Christian Endeavor Society. Mr. Lehmann appealed to the young men and women to lead clean, consistent Christian lives.

**Roanoke Presbytery:** At an adjourned meeting of Roanoke Presbytery, at Drake's Branch, May 9th, the Rev. A. E. Grover was received from Fayetteville Presbytery. Calls for his pastoral services from Hermon, Wylliesburg, Providence, Roanoke and Cub Creek churches were present and found in order. Presbytery deferred placing them in his hands and taking order for his installation until the meeting in August. Calls for the pastoral services of the Rev. John A. Scott from Hat Creek and Diamond Hill churches were presented and referred to a commission appointed to meet in Hat Creek the third Sabbath in June to receive him, should his letter from Concord Presbytery come in time, and then install him pastor.

At the spring meeting in April Rev. B. F. Bedinger was elected Presbyterial evangelist for his whole time.

**Lexington:** During the absence of our pastor, Rev. Dr. A. T. Graham, at the commencement of Union Seminary in Richmond, the pulpit was most acceptably filled Sunday morning and night, May 7th, by Rev. Charles F. Myers, of Charleston, West Virginia. Mr. Myers is the son of a former elder of this church, and joined it under the ministry of Rev. Dr. Thomas L. Preston. His brother, Rev. Dr. H. W. Myers, missionary to Kobe, Japan, assisted him in both services. On the same Sunday the session unanimously voted our pastor a two months' vacation, to begin at once, as he has been unsparing of himself in his labors here, and stands in need of a good rest.

A. H.

**West Hanover Presbytery:** Never in the history of West Hanover Presbytery has there been such a year of progress in its Home Mission work as during the past twelve months. For three years in succession not one church has failed to contribute to this cause. The receipts have increased from \$703.19 in 1911 to \$3,180.62 in 1916. Three mansees have been built during the past year. Four pastors have been secured. One pastorate has been divided. Every church will be supplied during the coming summer. There will be nineteen ministers actively at work this summer, as against twelve ministers four years ago, besides two seminary students, and three professors for a part of their time.

One of the most remarkable things is the fact that within nine and one-half months twenty-eight of the forty-six churches of the Presbytery have agreed to increase the amount paid toward pastor's salary, in most cases releasing Home Mission funds.

The membership of the Presbytery stood practically still for the decade, 1901-1911, yet during the past five years there has been a net gain of 677.

Last July the Presbytery created the office of Superintendent of Home Missions and Sunday-school Work, being the second Presbytery to affect just this combination. The records show that there was thirteen more Sunday-schools reported this year than last year; that there has been an increase in the membership of the Sunday-schools of 466; an increase of eleven in the number of pupils admitted to communion; an increase of 120 in the number enrolled in the Home Depart-

ment, and an increase in contributions of \$308.

**Lexington:** This church has secured as the assistant for the pastor, Mr. James Nelson Montgomery, of Alabama, who graduates at Columbia Seminary at the approaching commencement. Mr. Montgomery is a graduate of Washington and Lee University, and has acted efficiently as Y. M. C. A. secretary. He expects to enter on his duties September 1st, and his work will lie chiefly among the students and cadets, and in the various outlying posts established by this church.

The April report of deacons for the fiscal year ending March 31st showed \$6,235 for our own church (including the building of Liberty Hall chapel at West Lexington), and \$5,252 for "Benevolences," of which Foreign Missions received \$2,722, an increase of \$33 over the previous year.

A. H.

### ARKANSAS.

**Marianna:** The fourth Sunday of April closed the first anniversary of the present pastorate. Other congregations all united with us in the morning service. This has been a year of marked blessings for the church here. Seventy-three members have been added to the church during the year. Four hundred and sixty contributed to the benevolent causes. Old debts about all paid. On first of April the pastor's salary was increased in a most substantial way. During the year the pastor has preached at several places out of town. Several splendid families have been added to the church from these appointments. A splendid male quartet goes with the pastor on Sunday afternoon once or twice a month to these outside appointments. We are pushing the county plan of evangelism and have good results. For our Presbyterian gospel in Arkansas there is an open door, but many adversaries. We bring the gospel of love and good will and the Lord will bring the harvest in his own season and way.

W. K. J.

**Mountain Valley:** At the monthly service on May 7th James P. Smith was elected, ordained and installed elder. This church was organized just a month ago, and this is the first officer. One member was received from the Womble church.

**Mt. Ida:** The Mt. Ida church was organized on the night of May 7th by Rev. J. T. Barr, evangelist. Eight members were enrolled, and others are expected to join soon. Sion S. Smith was elected elder, and William L. Collier was elected deacon. These officers were ordained and installed. Mt. Ida is the county seat of Montgomery County, and a church here will mean much to our work in this section. It is hoped that a church building will be erected soon.

**Blytheville:** Rev. Anton Ver Hulst, of Jonesboro, has just closed a two weeks' meeting in this church. During the morning hour the people engaged in a Bible study, considering the Christ of the Old Testament, which has inspired a desire for a more intimate acquaintance with God's word. In the evening the gospel message was presented most effectively to large audiences. Four have signified their desire thus far to make a profession of their faith in Christ, and five to unite with the church by letter. There are a number of others who have shown a decided interest, some of whom it is expected will make their decision shortly. The meeting has done good in every way.

**Arkansas Presbytery:** Two of the young men graduating from the Kentucky Seminary at Louisville this spring have accepted work in this promising section. J. W. Boyer goes

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